



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

APR 29 2003

Mr. Scott Gudes
Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans
and Atmosphere
Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Gudes:

On January 31, 2003, you requested the comments of the Department of Defense on an administrative appeal brought by Islander East Pipeline Company (Islander East) pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Islander East requests that the Department of Commerce override the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's objection to a consistency certification for Islander East's proposed natural gas pipeline (the Islander East Project) to deliver natural gas from Connecticut to the eastern Long Island, New York, area on the grounds that the proposed project is necessary in the interest of national security.

We have reviewed the appeal and cannot conclude that a national defense or other national security interest would be significantly impaired if the project were not permitted to go forward as proposed.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Grone

Principal Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Environment)

